

## CLOSED MODELS GROWING MORE POPULAR IN U.S.

Engineers Trying Production  
Scheme to Cut Price of  
Dustless Cars.

The final elimination of the present day family touring car, the substitution of new closed models and the development of open models along sport car lines, together with price changes, are the plans of some of the leading automotive engineers of the country.

Nearly all the major motor car producers of the country have come to a point where they believe that the sales of touring cars are going to be less and less and the demand for cheaper closed models will be increasingly greater. The reason for this, it is said, is all the year adaptability of the coupe and sedan, cleanliness while touring, easy facilities in meeting weather changes and the greater comfort they afford.

**Will Reduce Price.**  
The engineers are now trying to devise a production scheme which will allow them drastically to reduce the price of closed cars to within a hundred dollars or so of the open car figures and at the same time produce them in larger quantities. Sales records show the family man is buying more and more the four and five passenger coupe and the larger sedan, if his family happens to be large or he does a great deal of touring.

To those who really want an open car for summer touring and city driving the manufacturers are finding that the longer and lower slung sport models are meeting with greater popularity. It is for this reason that the Packard recently lengthened the wheel base of the single six and slung it several inches lower, and the same reason prompted the General Motors to make important changes in nearly all their models. The Buick five-passenger sport model and sport roadster has made its appearance; the Oakland has been slung lower and made of more racy lines; the Cadillac phaeton in the newest model is also lower and a strictly sport model in the Oldsmobile has been put on the market.

**Liberty Car Changed.**  
The Liberty makes also have radically changed their car, making it lower, longer and heavier and at the same time giving it an appearance of speed and power. The 1923 models of the Studebaker are also to be slung lower, it is reported at their factories.

Nearly every factory is at work on three types of closed models for the use of the family man. There is to be the so-called business coupe which is strictly a two-seated vehicle; there is to be the four and five-passenger coupe for touring purposes and for those who would buy a small touring car there is to be the seven-passenger sedan and then of course there will be the usual high-priced sedans and limousines for touring and the closed town car models.

The question of price reductions in the closed models is what is now occupying the attention of the large manufacturers who assert that they cannot possibly meet the public's demand for a closed car at a price nearly equal to the open car model and still finish it in the same manner they now do. Engineers hope that this can be accomplished by quantity production and radical changes in the factory methods now employed.

To meet this condition, until necessary alterations can be made, the Franklin and Dodge are putting out the so-called "convertible roadster" which embodies the open car features and sends the machine from the factory equipped with what practically amounts to the winter top. Only a step from this condition to the real closed car at a low price is seen by the engineers at both these factories.

**The Electric System.**  
Electricity for lighting a car is furnished by one of three different methods: the generator and storage battery system, which is the most common, or by the independent generator, or by the independent storage battery system.

## GASOLINE COSTS \$40 A GALLON IN MONGOLIA, CHINA

How would you like to pay \$40 a gallon for gasoline? That is what it costs in some parts of China, according to a report on "Pioneer Days in China's Automotive Trade," issued by the Department of Commerce and based on information received from Trade Commissioner Lynn W. Meekins. "The price of gasoline," says the report sent in by the trade commissioner, "varies from 20 cents to \$1.15 per gallon in Shanghai, to \$40 or more in Orma, Mongolia, the price increasing in proportion to the distance from the treaty ports and the correspondingly heavy expense of inland transportation. Urga receives its supply of gasoline by camel trains across the Mongolian plateau, the fuel being too bulky for transport by the existing motor car lines, which make the distance in one-eighth of the time required by caravans."

## RAPID GROWTH IS CLAIMED BY TEXAS OIL CO.

Gasoline Output in Ten Years  
Jumps From 300,000 to  
7,500,000 Gallons Month.

While it is interesting to read such figures as the entire world's production of petroleum from 1857 to 1918, which totals \$15 billion gallons, and while it is significant to learn that the United States has produced 62 per cent of this entire world production, still it seems even more interesting and more human to bring the figure down to the production of one of the great American oil companies. A typical example of this kind would be the Texas Company and surely it is an interesting fact to learn that this company has grown from 100,000 gallons of gasoline per day to 1,000,000 gallons. It is also interesting to note that in ten years the production of lubricating oils by the Texas Company has increased from 300,000 gallons to 7,500,000 gallons per month.

The Texas Company is one of the leaders in the petroleum industry. Before 1902 the company did not exist, but in the last twenty years the demand for its products has increased so extensively that the company now operates more than 2,500 motor trucks, tank trucks and delivery trucks of all kinds, and operates 5,000 railroad tank cars. The company has refineries and terminals at strategic points throughout the country, and gets its supplies from thousands of its own wells operating in fields producing crude petroleum. This crude petroleum is highly refined in the big, complete, modern refineries of the Texas Company, and sold throughout the country through thousands of Texaco dealers.

The Texas Company's products, including gasoline, motor oils, engine oils, kerosene and mill lubricants of all kinds, are distributed widely in this district.

### Tire Chains.

Tire chains are practically always used in wet weather and care is necessary to keep them from getting rusty. The chains should always be dried off before they are returned to the tool box after use. Especially should the clamps be looked after. A little cup grease or vaseline will prevent rusting and eliminate the trouble of prying them open or using a hammer to close them. There should always be carried in the tool kit a crosspiece tool and one or two extra cross chains. With this tool broken cross chains may be removed or replaced very easily.

### Bench Light Easy to Make.

A very convenient bench light may be made from an old piston by using the piston as a base and the connecting rod as an upright arm. Another arm of brass stock is attached to the end of the connecting rod by means of a wing nut, so that the light may be manipulated in any desired direction.

## UTILITY COUPE IS LATE MODEL OF CHEVROLET

New Closed Car Meets Needs  
of Professional and Commercial Man.

A new closed motor car built exclusively for professional men, salesmen, and other business travelers, is announced by the Chevrolet Motor Company, to sell for \$720, f. o. b. Flint, Mich.

This "Utility Coupe" model, as it is called, has been especially designed to meet the demand for a sturdy, comfortable, economical, and at the same time, good looking car for year-round use.

It is of the two-passenger single-seat type. But it has many features which make it ideally suited for its purpose.

The lines of the Fisher built body are smart yet very practical and efficient in appearance, designed to reflect credit on the owner of the house he represents. It is finished in fine black.

The passenger compartment is commodious both as to leg room and seating comfort. The seat in fact is 41 inches wide with a back 21 inches high, designed to support the whole spine. Trimming is of black and white stripes durable cloth.

Both side and rear windows are wide giving free vision all around and plenty of openness in warm weather. Side windows have tempered regulators for greatest ease in raising and lowering.

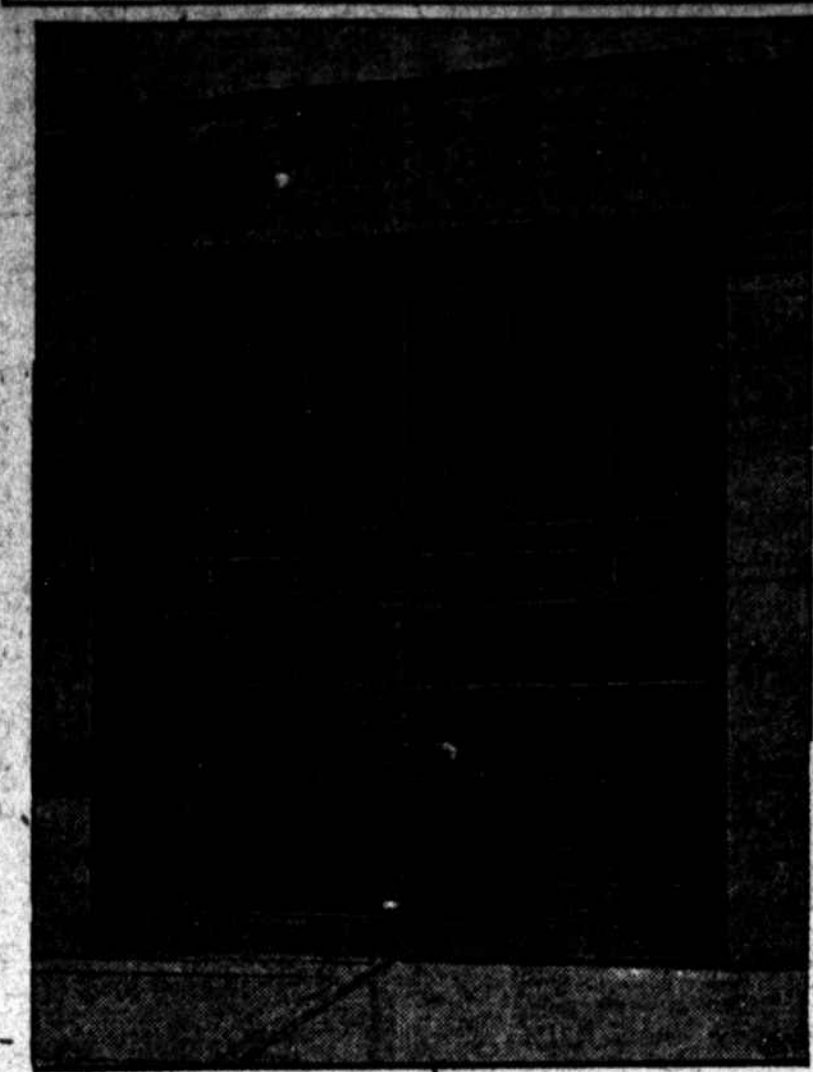
The windshield is adjustable both top and bottom and is equipped with a black metal visor with rain gutter.

The doors have been made exceptionally wide, allowing a 28-inch opening for the easy entrance and exit of men who are in and out of their cars a great deal. They are provided also with double latches and anti-rattlers for quietness and stability, can be locked, and are faced inside with high-grade imitation leather to resist wear.

An outstanding feature of this new Chevrolet model is the unusually large compartment in the rear of the body, having a capacity of nearly fifteen cubic feet. While the size of this compartment is cleverly concealed by the flowing body lines, it is large enough to accommodate a steamer trunk, and still have ample space for samples, advertising matter, instruments, etc.

It has the same powerful yet economical valve-in-head motor with the new quiet, easily adjustable Chevrolet valve tappets; selective type transmission, three speeds forward and one reverse, hand lever control; independent clutch and service brake pedals; foot throttle, etc.

## MD. BATTERY SERVICE



This modern service building, at 1019 Seventeenth street northwest, will be formally opened June 12 by Maryland Battery Service, Inc., for Westinghouse Battery Service and Sales.

## STANDARD LOOKS FOR GREAT SUCCESS

New Interest Affiliated With  
Steel Car Co. in  
Development.

New interests have joined with the Standard Steel Car Company of Pittsburgh in the production and marketing of the popular Standard Eight motor car. Important factors in the motor world, both from Detroit and New York, bring to the Standard organization a wealth of experience in the many ramifications of the business. In setting forth the aims and objectives of the strengthened and en-

larged organization, Don C. McCord, vice president and general manager, declares it is his belief that Standard Motor Car Company will score one of the conspicuous successes of the automotive industry, both as to design, manufacture and distribution.

### Parks Closed to Dogs.

Automobile tourists are prohibited from taking dogs or other domestic animals into the national parks of California. Motorists, passing through, but not stopping, may carry their pets along, but no stopovers are allowed.

### Dimmed Lights Barred.

Because it is recognized that there is more harm done in driving an automobile with dimmed lights than with bright lights, authorities in some sections of the United States are now penalizing drivers who dim their lights, instead of those who fail to do so.

## BUICK ENGINE RUNS DESPITE WATER STREAM

Unique Test is Made to Demonstrate Value of Ignition System.

While no motor car engine has yet been designed that will continue to function under water, the Buick motor comes pretty close to doing it. On several occasions recently, a unique demonstration has been made, showing that the Buick car keeps running in spite of a stream of water running into the top of the motor.

The method of procedure is to secure the permission of a fire department in a city, attach a hose to the corner hydrant and turn the water on. This was done very recently at Flint, Mich., and when the water was gushing freely, a Buick car with the hood removed, so that the motor was completely exposed, was driven up and two city firemen played the hose full on the unprotected motor, the stream of water falling from a height of about 100 feet. In spite of this giant shower bath,

## CARD WITH PHOTO FOR EVERY DRIVER IN NEW YORK CITY

The board of aldermen of New York city recently, by a vote of 18 to 2, passed the traffic card ordinance which provides that every driver of a motor or horse-drawn vehicle must procure a traffic card from the police department and have his photograph attached to it. The card will contain five spaces for recording violations of minor traffic rules which must be punched by the traffic officer. After the fifth violation has been punched in the card and there is another violation the officer will serve a summons.

which was continued for more than five minutes, the motor kept purring away on all cylinders, as contentedly as if every night was Saturday night in its experience.

It was a triumphant demonstration of the staying qualities of the motor and of the ignition system used in Buick cars.

## Seat Cover Upholstery & Top

Nails  
Glass  
Binding  
Mouldings  
Second Floor  
939 D St. N. W.  
R. L. Neoven Co.

## Use One of Our New Dodge Brothers Cars While We Paint Yours

We paint all makes of cars, and we furnish you a car at a cost not to exceed the amount you pay to operate your own car and give you a paint job equal to if not better than the original.

Upholstering, Slip Covers, Top Work

## Semmes Motor Co.

613-619 G Street N. W.  
Phone Main 6600

Capt. E. V. Rickenbacker

Announces the New

# Rickenbacker

A CAR WORTHY OF ITS NAME

To Be Distributed in District of Columbia

by the

## Flanders-Smith Company, Inc.

You will marvel at the latest and up-to-the minute design, finish and mechanical features in this new car, built by some of the world's greatest automobile manufacturers in the huge plants of the Rickenbacker Motor Company in Detroit.

## Visit Our Salesroom Today

and inspect this Great Car, or, better still, phone for a demonstration. You will not be obligated to us, as we are anxious to demonstrate to you the many late improvements the Rickenbacker has.

5-Passenger Phaeton, \$1,485

4-Passenger Coupe, \$1,885

5-Passenger Sedan, \$1,985

Above prices f. o. b. factory, Detroit, Mich.

## Flanders-Smith Company, Inc.

1818 Fourteenth Street N. W.

Phone North 9510

Washington, D. C.

Open Evenings

## Dependable Champions For Every Engine Everywhere

Aid  
Quick  
Starting



Type for Ford  
Champion X... new 60c  
Champion Regular new 75c

The firing points of Champion Plugs are special nickel alloy, do not corrode, oxidize, or burn readily, and give an instant spark at each turn of the motor.

Ask your dealer to sell you a full set.

CHAMPION SPARK PLUG CO.

TOLEDO, OHIO

This car has no period of vibration.

Two flywheels instead of one, thus all vibration is eliminated.